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Kilusang Mangingisda

Kilusan para sa Pagpapaunlad ng Industriya ng Pangisdaan

Member Organizations

AADC

Agri-Aqua Development Coalition

BASULTA Inc.

Basilan Sulu Tawi-Tawi Federation of Farmers and Fisherfolks Associations, Inc.

KAMMMPI

Kapatiran ng Malayang Maliliit na Mangingisda ng Pilipinas

KASAMAKA

Katipunan ng mga Samahang Mamamayan sa Kanayunan

GGL

Gabay ng Gintong Layunin

GIOS Samar

Gugmahan Maqueda Bay Iguin Undonghan Organisasyon Samarnon

MAMAMAYAN - PAKISAMA

Malayang Mangingisda para Magpaunlad sa Yaman ng Nayon - Pambansang Kilusan ng Samahang Magsasaka

PANGISDA

Progresibong Alyansa ng Mangingisda ng Pilipinas

PRONET

Provincial Network of Resource Managers

PKSK

Pambansang Katipunan ng Samahan sa Kanayunan

SAMAMA-AMA

Samahan ng Maliliit na Mangingisda -Aniban ng Manggagawa sa Agrikultura

VISNET

Visayas Network of CBCRM Practitioners

By 2001 Philippine fishery exports reached 108,500 MT valued at \$ 311.58 million. In the same year, fishery imports reached 157,270 MT valued at \$ 60.05 million. Although the Philippine government regulates the importation of fish, smuggling, undocumented and illegal forms of fish importation have been reported.

Imported fresh, chilled and frozen fish mainly supplies the local canning industry. This trading system poses a negative effect on small producers as canneries would be dependent on imported fish. Locally available fish is usually sold at twice the price of imported fish. The Philippine government takes advantage of foreign subsidies and low prices of imported fish. As a result, government neglects the development of municipal (small-scale) fisheries.

With the growing concern on the effects of importation on municipal fisherfolk, a group of fisherfolk organizations in consultation with Tambuyog Development Center organized efforts to immediately address the issue. The basis of unity and demands to government are 1) ban the importation and smuggling of fish, 2) provide subsidies for municipal fisheries, and 3) implement an effective fisheries management regime and poverty alleviation programs.

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In May 2002 the Movement for Fisheries Industry Development (Kilusan para sa Pagpapaunlad ng Industriya ng Pangisdaan) or Fisherfolk Movement (Kilusang Mangingisda or km) was organized .

vision

comprehensive development of Philippine fisheries industries centered on coastal fisheries.

mission

to engage in national and international campaigns against the entry of World Trade Organization into Philippine fisheries".



After a decade of lull in fisherfolk coalition work, Kilusang Mangingisda is now recognized by media and government as a network which lobbies for the agenda of small fisherfolk. Kilusang Mangingisda is a loose coalition composed of national and regional fisherfolk organizations, federations and alliances which agrees to pursue its agenda through concerted advocacy mobilizations in the international, national, provincial and local levels of policy engagements.

Achievements

To heighten public awareness on the impacts of importation on fisheries, Kilusang Mangingisda gave press releases, advisories and media briefings. A consistent and concerted mobilization of Kilusang Mangingisda was conducted in May 2002 culminating on May 31 (National Fisherfolk Day). Regional mobilizations were also undertaken. News articles were published in major newspapers, news segments items in ABS-CBN, GMA 7, Net 25 and interviews on radio viz. fish smuggling.



Kilusang Mangingisda requested a dialogue with the Secretary of Agriculture – Leonardo Montemayor on May 31, 2002 but did not push through due to the unavailability of the secretary. Since Kilusang Mangingisda wanted to meet with no less than the secretary, the dialogue had to be postponed until June 27, 2002.

As a result, significant discussions points and resolutions were made. Kilusang Mangingisda is now included in the DA's Anti-Smuggling Task Force and was recently included in the discussions on fisheries trade negotiation. Kilusang Mangingisda is now a key and critical factor in the pursuit of a fisheries industry plan with the municipal fishery sector as the cornerstone of Philippine fisheries development.

Banilad Declaration

In September 2002, a national consultation on fisheries subsidies and market access was convened in Cebu City, Philippines. A national survey on perceived impacts of fisheries subsidies in municipal fisheries was conducted among 70 national fisherfolk leaders. This survey shows that about 83% of fisheries support programs or subsidies to Philippine municipal fisheries are non-existent, 15 % insufficient and 3 % sufficient. Of the six fisheries support programs, fisheries management and conservation programs are perceived to be sufficient while direct assistance to fishers and fisheries workers are non-existent. The rest are insufficient.

Highlights of the national consultation were disseminated as the "The Banilad Declaration". The Banilad Declaration and recognizes three major issues regarding fisheries trade liberalization.

Major Issues

Food security

More than 60% of our cheap protein requirement is derived from fish. If we pursue an export oriented fishery production, we are putting the country's food security at risk particularly our capacity to be food self-sufficient. The country's food sovereignty is also compromised as we lose control over our food supply.

Health

This goes hand in hand with the issue of food security wherein peoples access to safe and nutritious food should be guaranteed. The use of chemical in the preservation of fish is detrimental to peoples health.

Livelihoods

A large portion of our population depends on fishing for their livelihood. Opening the flood-gates to imported fish will threaten the livelihood of the municipal fisherfolks.

Common Stand and Demands

Responding to the challenges of the times, the municipal fisherfolks adhere to the following principles that will guide our analysis and actions on the above mentioned issues.

1. Philippine Fisheries for Filipinos which is enshrined in the Philippine Constitution and the Fisheries Code.
2. Food Security and Food Sovereignty which asserts that priority should be given to addressing the food needs of the domestic population over exports of food and food products for the world market.
3. Income and Livelihood Security is the obligation of the state to create conditions that provide opportunities for its citizens to have jobs and livelihoods to support their needs.
4. Ecological Integrity recognizes that life flows through the environment and preserving its integrity is key to any initiative to develop and manage our fishery resources.
5. Social Justice should be given to advancing the interest of municipal fisherfolks and municipal fisheries, that make up the majority in the fishing industry, in any discussions on trade over the interest of profiteers (e.g. commercial and aquaculture sector) rests on the principle of social justice.
6. Solidarity and unity within the Sector recognizes the strong need for unity within the municipal fishing sector in order to face the challenges and threats to the sector.

KM Activities for 2003 – 2005

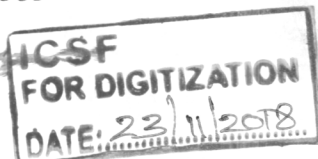
To continue ongoing negotiations in Task Force – Fisheries Subsidies and Market Access from 2003 – 2005

To engage in the selection of National Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council (NFARMC) by 2003

To sustain engagements in Municipal Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council (MFARMC) and Integrated Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council (IFARMC) on key issues from 2003 – 2005

Block Fisheries Code Review by 2003

Critical participation in 2004 National elections



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